

**CHILMARK BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**JOINT MEETING WITH CHILMARK**  
**SELECT-BOARD**

# Minutes

May 5, 2021

5pm

Google Drive: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1MZ49KmqQy0b91mwZWn7iWSj1Ru3-uzT9>

**Present:** Katie Carroll, Jan Buhrman, Matt Poole, Warren Doty, Jim Malkin, Bill Rossi, Diana DeBlaise, Tim Carroll, Forrest Filer, Reid Silva, Chris Alley, Martina Mastromonaco, Jenna Petersiel, Alexandra London-Thompson, Suellen Lazarus, Rev. Earnest Belisle; Valerie Rosenberg, Margaret Maida, Eunki Seonwoo, Ryan Rossi, Maia Coleman, Julie Flanders, Deb Hancock, Alison Perry, Jonathan Klaren, Clarissa Allen, S. Stammell, Joel Glickman, Althea Donoroma.

**Caldwell, 60 Meeting House Road, (18-40&92.3)** The Board **approved** a septic plan revision presented by Reid Silva. The leaching field has been moved to a different location with better soils and does not require variances.

**1 Azalea Lane (29-5)** Chris Alley asked the Board about using a septic tank as a holding tank, for the duration of summer '21 only. The Board asked Chris Alley to confirm system failure requiring elaborate replacement/repair, and noted that a tight tank is a last resort option.

**Trash at Squibnocket and Lucy Vincent Beaches:** Jan Buhrman presented a proposed “Carry In/Carry Home” plan for LVB and SB, arguing that providing trash dumpsters for public use encourages misuse. Martina Mastromonoco stated that trash disposal options are still needed for Department use, since beach staff conduct considerable cleaning operations daily, removing both washed-up beach debris, leftover trash from the previous day’s beachgoers and after-hours visitors and refuse left in porta-potties. The Board emphasized that options for trash disposal should not be offered to the public, and noted that, when it comes to trash disposal, Menemsha is a very different situation that will have to be dealt with separately.

**Menemsha Sunset Season 2021:** The Board of Health held joint session with Chilmark Select-board to discuss measures to address potential over-crowding of the Menemsha/Basin Road area, especially during evening hours, where gathering on Menemsha Beach to watch sunset has become an increasingly popular nightly event throughout the summer season, drawing crowds from all over the island.

They felt that, in light of current high transmission rates and uncertain vaccination status of crowds throughout the summer, it would be prudent to try to limit crowding through, *inter alia*, blocking off center lot for parking at Menemsha Beach, and not having the VTA shuttle to bring people from satellite parking at the LDO. They also decided that the Fish Markets can decide whether or not to open their premises to the public in accordance with State guidelines, and decided to strictly enforce a parking ban on the water side at the Basin Road lease lots, as an important safety measure given the dense pedestrian traffic on Basin Road. These measures were approved unanimously by both boards. Police Chief Jonathan Klaren noted that restricted parking in the Basin Road lot will inevitably result in “creative parking” in the area, which the department will end up having to monitor and deal with. All present noted that all signs point to an extremely busy summer this year.

**Chilmark Store** The Board reviewed a proposal from Chilmark Store to reopen with indoor restrictions. The Board thanked the Chilmark Store for their prudent approach.

**CCC Summer Program:** Alexandra London-Thompson and Suellen Lazarus presented their respective plans for the summer children's camp and book festival, to be held on the Chilmark Community Center campus. Strong precautions and more limited attendance are foreseen, and the Board thanked the organizers for their prudence. The Select-board and Board of Health voted unanimously to approve these proposed plans as presented.

**Blessing of the Fleet:** The Board approved plans for the event, which will take place outdoors.

The Board of Health thanked the Selectboard for joining these important discussions. Forrest Filler requested clarification on the status of the town's mask order. The Board will address this and other town-specific COVID requirements at its May 19th meeting.

**Invoice:** The Board approved an invoice for the Vineyard Smiles dental Program.